

PRESS RELEASE



UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN MADRID

U.S. Embassy Madrid and International Institute of Spain sign agreement to open American Space Madrid.

Signing precedes first official program, a lecture with noted American author Amy Tan.

On Monday evening (March 10), Kate M. Byrnes, the Counselor for Public Diplomacy at the U.S. Embassy Madrid, and Alvaro Mendiola, member of the Board of Directors for the International Institute of Spain, signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions to launch American Space Madrid” as a platform to connect members of the Madrid community interested in the United States. The signing ceremony occurred at the International Institute on Calle Miguel Angel, 8, in Madrid, where the physical American Space Madrid workspace will also be located upon completed.

The first official event of American Space Madrid immediately followed the signing ceremony as noted American author Amy Tan participated in a public interview in the International Institute’s noted lecture hall, the Parainfo. American Space Madrid will provide year-round programming around five core areas: English teaching and learning, educational counseling for students interested in American schools, cultural programs, alumni programs and information about the United States.

Kate M. Byrnes, the U.S. Embassy’s Counselor for Public Diplomacy, observed in remarks at the signing ceremony that “American Space Madrid is more than a room, it’s a series of programs. Through American Space Madrid, we will expand our programs introducing the Spanish public to information about American society and culture, as well as specific programs targeted towards English learners or students interested in attending U.S. universities. Today’s event with Amy Tan is only a taste of things to come. In a few days, the Institute will host a major U.S. college fair. Later this month, the Institute will launch an innovative online public speaking course.”

The U.S. Department of State supports over 850 American Spaces world-wide, proving access to the latest, in-depth information about the United States and connecting Americans and host country citizens in engaging conversations about U.S. policy, society and values. American Space Madrid is the second American Space in Spain, following the April 2013 launch of American Space Valencia. American Space Madrid looks for partnerships from the entire Madrid community including private sector partners, educational institutions and civic groups.

For more information about American Space Madrid, please contact: 91 319 8184 and AmericanSpace.Madrid@gmail.com.



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